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Law Library Blog (September 2017): Legal Beagle's Blog Archive

Roger Williams University School of Law

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Legal Beagle's Post

September 1, 2017

Labor Day

Posted by Library Blog on 09/01/2017 at 10:07 AM

Monday, September 4th is Labor Day! There are no law school classes on Labor Day, but you can still come to the Law Library to catch up on some homework! We will be open from 9:00am-11:00pm on Monday.

The celebration of Labor Day dates back to the late 19th century. It started as part of a labor movement, with the [first likely observance](#) on September 5, 1882 in New York City, when about 10,000 workers took unpaid time off to march from City Hall to Union Square. After a few years of informal observances in many states, this "workingmen's holiday" became a [federal holiday](#) in 1894 when Congress passed legislation and President Grover Cleveland signed a bill designating the first Monday in September as "Labor Day." It is a holiday to celebrate the contributions of the country's labor force, which is currently estimated to be [159.8 million people](#). If you are interested in learning about the Law Library's collection on American employment and labor law, visit our [TimeSaver](#) on the subject.

Labor Day also marks the unofficial end of summer, so it might be a good weekend to explore Rhode Island. You could explore [Food Truck Fridays](#) at the Roger Williams Zoo, take in some time at the beach, enjoy a picnic in [Colt State Park](#), or even attend a [polo match](#).

Enjoy your long weekend!



September 8, 2017

Out(standing) new items at the library!

Posted by Library Blog on 09/08/2017 at 11:28 AM

While we have an amazing collection of books and electronic resources, (Lexis! Westlaw! Bloomberg! Ailalink!) we also have an amazing collection of items, both new and not-so-new, available for loan at the circulation desk.

Our newest item is our **standing desk** section of the library. Now you can sit or stand and study depending on your preference!

We all know the weather in New England can be unpredictable. If you find yourself getting a little toasty in a study room, check out a **fan** for a little cool down or borrow a **blanket** for a little warmth.



Find yourself in the middle of an unexpected rainstorm? LexisNexis has graciously provided the Library with a fleet of **umbrellas** that can be borrowed to get yourself safely to your car or to court.

Another item available, which is brand new this semester, is a **book stand**. We have several in our collection that you can borrow for typing notes while reading in your casebook.

Finally, when you find you need a study break, come grab some coloring supplies! We have crayons, colored pencils, and coloring books for loan to break up your study time.

For these items and more (like audio study aids, reader cards, desk lamps, and headphones!), stop by our circulation desk!

September 15, 2017

ResearchFest: Fill Your Research Toolbox!

Posted by Library Blog on 09/15/2017 at 10:18 AM

Monday, September 18

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Law Library – Bristol Campus



Efficient, effective research is one of the most valuable skills you can develop for your professional career. Legal Practice courses introduce all lawstudents to the leading legal research platforms, Lexis and Westlaw, but these are just two of many tools available. A professional selects the best tool to use for each project from the full assortment of tools available.

ResearchFest provides an opportunity for students and faculty to discover several alternative research platforms and resources to add to their toolbox of research resources. During the event, you can visit informally with representatives for these resources as they show you how to use their tools for legal research.

Resources represented include:

- [Bloomberg BNA](#), the third major legal research platform;
- [Fastcase](#), one of the largest online legal research libraries;
- [HeinOnline](#), a premier service providing a vast array of searchable image-based legal materials;
- [Lexis Digital Library](#), a new service by LexisNexis and OverDrive® that offers access to the largest collection of authoritative legal eBook content on all major mobile devices and desktop platforms;
- [ProQuest](#), a key source for locating Congressional materials; and

- Roger Williams University Library, Sue McMullen from the University Library will be there to explain and demonstrate how to access a variety of campus-wide resource subscriptions provided by the University Library.

You may even grab a slice of pizza and see demos from the Law Library's librarians on tools for law study, career research, tax research, and current awareness. You don't want to miss it!

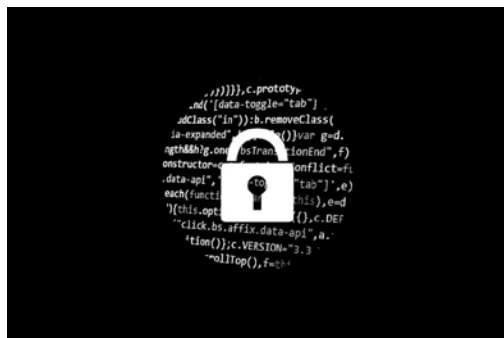
Participation allows you to sign up for prizes or get snacks and giveaways!

September 22, 2017

Lock Your Virtual Doors! Cybersecurity Starts With Your Passwords

Posted by Library Blog on 09/22/2017 at 09:35 AM

As the Legal Beagle sits to write this, a major [data breach involving credit monitoring company Equifax has made the news](#).



If you read or even watch the news regularly, you will know that this is not the first and likely not the last security breach that may have an effect on your finances, personal information, or even health information. How can you protect yourself from future attacks? Strong passwords + protecting your devices.

Although the [person who invented password rules has changed his mind about those rules](#), a strong password that combines old advice and new advice can help you protect access to your most important information.

However, strong passwords are not enough! Any device that you use to access the Internet also needs to be protected against viruses and malware. Yes, even your [iPhone](#) or [Mac](#). Sadly, [even connected devices like the Amazon Echo or Google Home can be hacked](#).

So, how does the Legal Beagle ensure that his passwords are good and protected? He will be the first one in line to attend our Prepare for Practice technology class [Don't Forget Your \(Virtual\) Keys: Creating & Using Strong Passwords](#). In this class, the Legal Beagle and you will learn about tools for testing your current passwords, how to create strong passwords, how to safely use them on any device, and we'll touch on ways to protect your devices.

September 29, 2017

Study Aids at the Library!

Posted by Library Blog on 09/29/2017 at 02:44 PM

As mid-terms are quickly approaching, many of you may be in search of study aids. Fear not! The Law Library has a plethora of study aids options.

E-Study Aids

The Law Library has two digital study aids collections available for you to use both on and off campus: the *RWU Law Digital Library* and *West Academic Online Study Aids*.

The RWU Law Digital Library provides access to a variety of titles from LexisNexis, including:

The *RWU Law Digital Library* provides access to a variety of titles from LexisNexis, including:

- eBooks: Understanding Series, Questions & Answers, Law Students Guides, Legal Research Guides, Mastering Series, and Skills & Values Series.

West Academic Online Study Aids provides access to both eBook and audio study aid content including:

- eBooks: Nutshells, Concise Hornbooks, Acing Series, Black Letter Series, Law Stories Series, Short & Happy Guides, Turning Point Series, and many more!
- Audio: Sum & Substance and Law School Legends.

Want to know the coolest part? All study aids from the RWU Law Digital Library and West Academic Online Study Aids are available for unlimited use!

These resources are available by selecting [RWU Law Digital Library – LexisNexis](#) or [West Academic](#) from the Law Library's list of digital resources.

Please contact a librarian for the code to access the *RWU Law Digital Library*. For off-campus access to the *West Academic Online Study Aids* and to save notes/highlights, register on campus using the "Create an Account" option at the top of the opening page.

CALI

In addition to the study aids, the Law Library offers free access to several [CALI](#) (The Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction) tools. CALI tools, authored by expert law school professors and law librarians, are designed to enhance your study of legal concepts and legal research.



CALI Lessons consist of over 1000 interactive lessons in over 40 legal subject areas. Lessons are accessible via iPhones and iPads and other mobile devices as well as via the CALI website.

When signing up for access to the CALI lessons, use the law school's authorization code you received at orientation. If you do not have this code, please [ask a reference librarian](#). CALI has so many fantastic resources for [research](#) (including a legal research coloring book authored by [two of your favorite librarians](#)) for the study of substantive law , and for [general legal fun](#).

CALI is also a source for [free eBooks](#), including the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, and Evidence, and for [Lawdibles](#), 10 minute audio recordings by law professors answering specific law school questions.

Lexis Courtroom Cast

The Law Library also offers free unlimited access to the [LexisNexis Courtroom Cast](#) Audio CaseFiles and Video Training Library.

You can use these to hone your trial and appellate advocacy skills by watching civil litigation or trial advocacy video clips. You can also download the audio of case excerpts from casebooks in MP3 format.

Be sure to use your law school email address when signing up for access!

Study Aids LawGuides

All of the information listed above (and much more) can be found in the Law Library's [Study Aids LawGuides!](#)

These guides are organized by class subject, including guides for all 1L classes and many of the 2L and 3L classes.

In these guides you will find links to the Law Library's popular print and eBook study aids; audio and visual resources (such as the Sum & Substance Audio series & LexisNexis Courtroom Cast); and online, print, and eBook resources you can use to test yourself on concepts from class.

Don't forget, if you have any questions or need assistance using the Law Library's study resources, please ask your friendly librarians! You can stop by the reference desk or email us at lawlibraryhelp@rwu.edu.